



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

countrymen to offer him acceptable examples of heroism and saintliness" (p. 454).

This summary takes no account of many digressions and collateral studies in themselves extremely able and illuminating. A brief but significant study of Lincoln, "government by lawyers" (p. 137), acute characterizations of Bryan, Jerome, Hearst, and Roosevelt, rapid, suggestive surveys of England, France, and Germany, a keen analysis of the Monroe doctrine, a discussion of the international peace movement, the control of corporations, regulation by commissions, the recognition of labor unions, the weaknesses of civil-service reform—all fall within the limits of the book. Several of these subjects are frankly called digressions; all of them are germane to the chief purpose. In one sense the materials of this book are largely familiar. It contains nothing startling—unless an obvious skepticism as to the sanctity of the constitution and open-mindedness about federal centralization and possible government assumptions of monopolistic functions are to be so reckoned—and little that is actually new and original. It is in the arrangement and interpretations of the facts and ideas that Mr. Croly makes a contribution of undoubted value. In a style, always clear, frequently picturesque, and occasionally eloquent he sets forth convincingly the task which the past imposes on the present to plan nationally for the future. The book chimes with many significant notes which are being sounded in these days. The author appeals to the efficient few through whom he hopes to influence the many.

Although Mr. Croly uses no technical terms, makes no allusion to social theory and might resent any suggestion that his book is tainted with social psychology, it is nevertheless true that he constantly offers comments and points out principles which are of the greatest interest to those who are studying the phenomena of social groups and their forms of control. The book will take its place in the literature of group psychology as well as among the best studies of society in the United States.

GEORGE E. VINCENT

---

*Les Principes de l'évolution sociale.* Deuxième édition revue et augmentée. Par DICRAN ASLANIAN. Paris: Felix Alcan, 1909. Pp. xxiv+296. Paper, 6 francs.

In a somewhat personal preface the author describes the steps by which a seminar paper on "The Rôle of Railways in the Develop-

ment of Modern Large-Scale Industry," assigned to him by Professor Conrad at Halle in 1886, grew into a comprehensive law of social evolution. One is prepared to agree with Dr. Aslanian that "la lecture en est difficile" and even to accept the reason, "par le fait que j'envisage le progrès de la humanité à un point de vue tout nouveau, sans me soucier des superstitions qui se sont enracinées" (p. v). The essay covers a bewildering range of topics among which the reader is constantly in danger of losing himself. The theories of many writers, ancient and modern, are discussed. Methodology receives a large amount of attention. Animal societies are used copiously for purposes of illustration. Philosophical and psychological problems crop up in large numbers. Quotations are frequent and generous in amount. Statistics of births, of mortality, and of migration appear in both text and appendix.

In spite of certain résumés and a chapter entitled "Conclusion," it is hard to gain a clear idea of the main thesis. The leading assumptions, principles, and inferences run somewhat as follows: man being assumed as a physically constant factor, the variable elements in the social order are antagonism and affinity on the human side and temperature and productivity on the material (p. xii). The intellectual equality of all peoples in a state of nature and the acquisition of intelligence as a function of a more complex social life are insisted upon. Men form societies within which solidarity is achieved and social bonds created. The result is a "train de vie" which the society strives to maintain against attack, direct or indirect. Differences among men consist wholly in degrees of solidarity and of the harmony of collective aspirations. The direction of social movement from warm to colder regions is not the result of intellectual guidance; of conscious, purposeful effort, but of collective instincts. Invention may hasten these displacements of civilization. The law applies only to the more important centers of culture. Variations are dealt with in a convenient chapter on "Les Aberrations." Conflicts of groups result in survivals or consolidations. Races are constantly absorbing elements from each other through "ondulations concentriques" of imitation. The measures of progress is found in the degree of liberty, security, and regularity of life which a society attains. Social evolution as a whole conforms to the law of the displacement of centers of culture from warm to colder regions. In proportion as this movement proceeds inventiveness develops, civilization becomes more pro-

found and widespread, liberty increases, democracy fortifies itself, the prospects of peace and prosperity gain ground. But at the same time it behooves nations to be armed for war, for they may be called upon to fight for their independence. The practical politics which this theory of social evolution enforces are: bodily exercise and the accumulation of experiences in the individual life, free trade, and decentralization in the collective existence.

This volume, in spite of interesting suggestions especially as to the nature and conflicts of social groups, belongs to an outgrown phase of social theory. It recalls the days when sociology was emerging from the philosophy-of-history stage. For anthropology, for social origins, for social psychology, even for general theory and methodology to which it professedly belongs this essay has little or no value.

G.E.V.

---

*Social Psychology, An Analytical Reference Syllabus.* By GEORGE ELLIOTT HOWARD, PH.D., Head Professor of Political Science and Sociology in the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb., 1910. Pp. 88.

This admirable guide falls into twenty sections distributed under three chapters. The first, "Characteristics of Social Psychology," is a historical survey which follows in general Davis' *Psychological Interpretations of Society*; the second on "Suggestibility and Imitation," and all but the last section of the third, "Opposition or Counter Imitation," are based directly on Ross's *Social Psychology*. The final section, "The Rôle of Great Men," falls into "The 'Great Man' Interpretation of History" and "Potential Genius and Democracy." The chief references here are to James, Baldwin, Carlyle, Galton, Fiske, Pearson, Ward, Thomas. The select bibliography of more than six hundred titles includes practically all the important books and articles in this field. One misses Gumpłowicz' *Der Rassenkampf* which is valuable for the psychology of group rivalry, and Tarde's *L'opinion et la foule*, in which the evolution and rôle of conversation are so suggestively treated. Williams' study *An American Town* is too little known. It deserves a place in any course which aims to cover social selection, the creation of types, and the influence of these in social control.

The analysis of topics, the arrangement of references, and the suggestive questions raised here and there are capitably designed for